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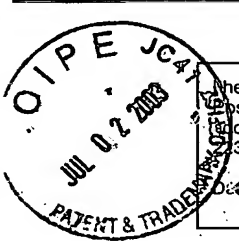
TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/047,726	
	Filing Date	January 15, 2002	
	First Named Inventor	Alok Nigam	
	Group Art Unit	3738	
	Examiner Name	H. Phan	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	HO-P01709US6

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
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Date	July 2, 2003

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Docket No.: HO-B01709US6

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Alok Nigam

Application No.: 10/047,726

Group Art Unit: 3738

Filed: January 15, 2002

Examiner: H. Phan

For: CORNEAL IMPLANT AND METHOD OF
MANUFACTURE

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED 4-24-03

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Dear Sir:

This paper in response to the Office Action dated April 24, 2003 (Paper No. 5).

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

A. Status of the Claims

Claims 1-17 are pending in the application. Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Barrett et al. (U.S. Patent 5,336,261).

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection and requests reconsideration. No claims have been amended.

B. Rejection of Claims 1-17 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) is Improper

The Action rejects claims 1-17 under 35 U.S.C 102(b) as being anticipated by Barrett et al. (U.S. Patent 5,336,261). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

The Action contends that the Barrett reference discloses "a corneal inlay lens having a body form from a material with an index of refraction substantially the same as that of corneal tissue; the body having two surface and joining each other at the periphery of the lens; and the thickness of the edge being less than about 15 micrometers."